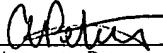


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: NAKATA et al. Confirmation No.: 5400
Serial No.: 10/699348
Filed: October 30, 2003 Docket: 10873.0489USC2
Title: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING OPTICAL HEAD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 12, 2004.

By: 
Name: Antonette Peters

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

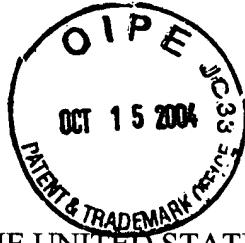
We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 3 Reference(s)
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 
Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No.: 30,300
DPM/acp



IFW

S/N 10/699348

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: NAKATA et al.

Serial No.: 10/699348 Group Art Unit: 2872

Filed: October 30, 2003 Docket No.: 10873.0489USC2

Title: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING OPTICAL HEAD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 12, 2004.

By: 
Name: Antonette Peters

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. Applicant wishes to call the Examiner's attention to co-pending, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/491100 filed January 25, 2000 and parent to the above referenced matter and Serial No. 10/428564 filed May 2, 2004 which is a continuation aforementioned Serial No. 09/491100.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

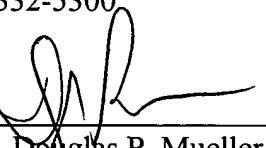
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

By



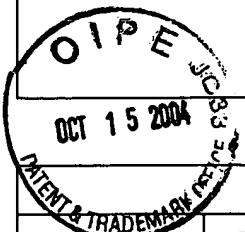
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

Dated: October 12, 2004

DPM.acp



FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.0489USC2	Application Number: 10/699348
Applicant: NAKATA et al.		
Filing Date: October 30, 2003		Group Art Unit: 2872



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	0 252 562 A1	01/1988	EP				
	01-277330	11/1989	JP			Abstract	
	01-224720	09/1989	JP			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------